

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A stepping exerciser comprising:

a base including a front portion,

a pair of bars pivotally secured to said front portion of said base, and each including an upper portion for being grasped by the hands of ~~users~~ a user, and each including a lower portion,

a wheel rotatably supported on said base,

a pair of cranks attached to said wheel and rotated in concert with said wheel, and each including a free end,

means for coupling said lower portions of said bars to ~~said wheel~~ said free ends of said cranks, to rotate and drive said wheel when said bars swing relative to said front portion of said base, said coupling means including a pair of foot supports for supporting the users,

a brake device disposed close to said wheel for braking said wheel, and

a switch provided on said upper portion of a first bar of said pair of bars, to actuate said brake device to brake said wheel with the hand of the user that holds said upper portion of said first bar.

Claim 2 (original): The stepping exerciser as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a driving means coupled between said switch and said

brake device to operate said brake device by said switch.

Claim 3 (original): The stepping exerciser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said driving means includes a driver circuit coupled to said brake device, to actuate said brake device.

Claim 4 (original): The stepping exerciser as claimed in claim 3, wherein said driving means includes a CPU coupled to said driver circuit.

Claim 5 (original): The stepping exerciser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said driving means includes a control board having a CPU coupled to said switch for being actuated by said switch.